

REMARKS

Claims 72-104 were pending in the application. Claims 72, 73, 75, 78, 82, 86, 87, 90, 93, 96-98 and 100 are amended above and claim 74 is cancelled. Claims 72-73 and 75-104 are pending in the application. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's statement that the instantly claimed invention is free of the prior art is duly noted.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 73-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as lacking enablement over the full scope of the claims. Specifically, the Office Action states that the specification does not provide enablement for all natural polymers.

Without acceding to the correctness of the rejection, claim 73 is amended above to include the limitation of claim 74, which is now cancelled. Furthermore, claim 75 is amended so that it depends from claim 73.

Claims 78, 90 and 100 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to satisfy the written description requirement. According to the Office Action, the specification does not provide adequate clarification with respect to what constitutes "analgesic combinations." Claims 78, 90 and 100 are amended above to remove the phrase "analgesic combinations."

Claims 72-104 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs as failing to comply with the written description requirement and being indefinite, because, the specification allegedly contains no support for a "bioactive" polymer and is allegedly used in derogation of art accepted terminology. Without acceding to the rejection, the claims are amended above to remove the term "bioactive."

In view of the above amendments, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs are respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is now in a condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of these claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy Smith Dias", is written over a horizontal line.

Kathy Smith Dias
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 41,707

Dated: June 24, 2010

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.
5 Columbia Circle
Albany, New York 12203-5160
Telephone: (518) 452-5600
Facsimile: (518) 452-5579